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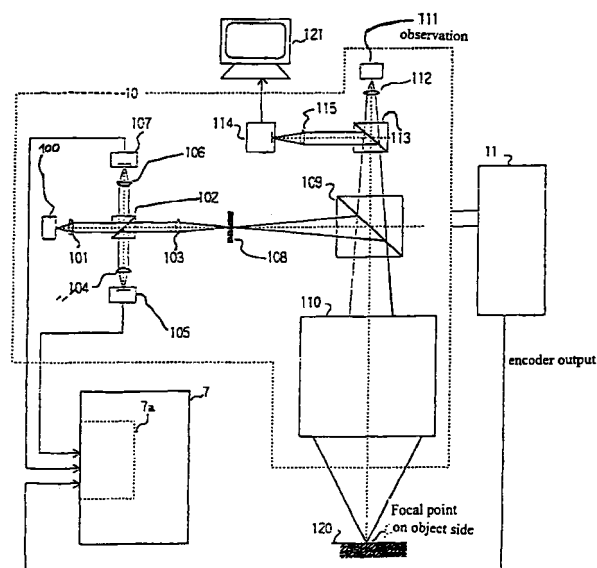
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(54) **Proximity exposure device with distance adjustment device**

(57) A proximity exposure device with a distance adjustment device in which sufficient determination sensitivity can be obtained even in areas with a low reflectance factor, such as on a glass surface, is achieved by a distance measurement part having a light source (100) for measurement purposes, a pinhole plate (108), an objective lens (110), a light detection device (105) and the like, light emerging from the light source for measurement purposes being emitted via the pinhole plate and objective lens onto the mask surface/workpiece surface (120), and light reflected thereby is detected via the objective lens and pinhole plate by the light detection device. If the mask surface/workpiece surface is located at the focal point of the objective lens on the object side, reflected light with high intensity is incident in the light detection device. To measure the distance between the mask and workpiece, the distance measurement part is moved in the Z-direction and two peaks of intensity of the reflected light of mask M and workpiece W are determined. Based on the position of the distance measurement part at this time, the distance between the mask and workpiece is determined. After measuring the distance between the mask and workpiece, the distance between the mask and workpiece is set to the desired value and exposure is performed.

FIG. 2





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			G03F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 29 May 2000	Examiner Heryet, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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